

and Trinity County was transferred from the Northern District to the North Coast District.

Mr. Joseph Doman, Engineering Assistant in the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, was granted a leave of absence until the expiration of his military service.

Delegates were appointed to represent the Board as follows:

Prof. E. J. Lea, Director of the Bureau of Foods and Drugs, at the meeting of State and Federal Food and Drug Inspectors of the Western District at Salt Lake on October 22nd to 24th.

Mrs. E. L. M. Tate Thompson, Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, at the annual meeting of the southwestern conference of tuberculosis at Grand Canyon on October 22nd and 23rd.

Dr. W. A. Sawyer, Secretary of the Board, at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association at Washington, D. C., on October 17th to 20th.

Rules were adopted governing access to the records of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics and those in the offices of local registrars. One of the rules provided that any person, in order to obtain permission to inspect the records of the local registrar, must make written application stating the information he desires to obtain. Local Registrars are given the right to refuse the permission to search records if the object is not a proper one.

Permits were granted on the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering for the operation of 112 swimming pools.

Temporary permit was granted to the City of Vallejo to supply water from impounded reservoirs in the Wild and Green Horse Valleys. Temporary sewage disposal permit was granted to the Alameda County Tuberculosis Hospital. A permit was granted to the City of Anaheim to extend its Imhoff tank installation for its sewage treatment.

On the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Registration of Nurses the nurses' training school in connection with the Vallejo General Hospital, having been inspected and found not to meet the requirements of the Board, was not placed on the accredited list of nurses' training schools. The nurses' training school in connection with the Fairmont Hospital, San Francisco, was placed upon the accredited list for one year.

The Board made a ruling relative to graduates of accredited schools in other states where additional study is required after graduation for eligibility for registration as nurses. Included in the ruling was the requirement that where additional study is taken in California it must be pursued as undergraduate work and under the same regulations as pertain to the regular students of the training school.

Certificates as registered nurses were granted to 142 nurses who had passed the examination for registration held on August 22nd and 23rd, 1917. Three nurses were given certificates through reciprocity.

A large number of food and drug cases were taken up and hearings were held. The majority of the cases were referred to the District Attorneys for prosecution.

W. A. SAWYER, Secretary.

Quack Chamley Again Active

The State Board of Medical Examiners of California has been constantly active in an endeavor to suppress the operations of the above mentioned individual, who has been actively engaged in this state for several years. The records of proceedings before the Board for revocation of certificate, compiled since the present Board became operative, shows on page 47 in the matter of "proceedings to revoke the certificate of Samuel R. Chamley, issued February 9, 1889, under sub-

division 3rd of section 14, chapter 354 of Statutes of 1913, as amended by chapter 105, Statutes of 1915," Nov. 4, 1915, complaint filed; Nov. 4, 1915, citation issued; Dec. 4, 1915, answer and demurrer filed; Dec. 15, 1915, respondent appeared with attorney and moved for continuance by reason of the absence by sickness of the attorney for Dr. Chamley, who had been handling the proceedings. Motion for continuance was denied. The demurrer interposed by respondent was overruled, the Board determining that the complaint sufficiently alleged an offense in compliance with the section of the Medical Act. Attorney Lecompte Davis appeared with Attorney John S. Cooper as counsel for respondent Chamley. The following witnesses testified and the matter was submitted: Mrs. M. E. Del Valle, Grace E. Allen, Dr. Walter Brem, Walter A. Beswicke, Dr. Harry Oscar White, Dr. Orville Witherbee. The Board determined that the evidence introduced was sufficient to sustain the allegations of the complaint and the respondent was guilty of the charge preferred and that the license of Samuel R. Chamley to practice medicine and surgery in the State of California was revoked."

After the action of the Board above noted, a restraining order was issued by Presiding Judge York of the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, and on June 27, 1916, Judge Shenk "cleared the way" for the State Board of Medical Examiners to serve on Dr. Samuel R. Chamley the order revoking his license as a physician in his suit against the Board, restraining the latter from proceeding further. At this time the Judge denied the injunction asked for by Dr. Chamley prior to the last mentioned date. The attorneys for Dr. Chamley on March 13, 1917, petitioned the court for a "writ of review."

Under date of September 30, 1915, the San Francisco Call printed an article opening as follows: "Following his indictment by the grand jury on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses from Mrs. D. G. Hill of San Diego, detectives are hunting for Dr. Samuel R. Chamley, self-styled cancer expert." . . . Under date of April 17, 1916, the Los Angeles Express printed an article noting that a "fraud" order had been issued by the Post Office Department against Samuel R. Chamley, alleged quack cancer specialist, who operated in San Francisco and Los Angeles. "The order was issued April 14 and the information was received to-day by Clark E. Webster, Post Office Inspector, Webster making a report to the department shortly before Christmas telling of the results of his investigations here. Post Office Inspectors at San Francisco at the same time were making an investigation there. The purpose of the order is to prevent the man from getting any mail at all. It will have the effect, in the opinion of the Post Office Inspectors, of putting him out of business."

Under date of August 24, 1916, the Los Angeles Times printed an article noting that "Mrs. Clara E. C., wife of Dr. Samuel R. Chamley, was prepared to open her fight for separation along another line." . . . During the trial Dr. Chamley testified that several years ago his "income amounted to \$20,000 a year but since the Post Office Department has issued a certain order, and through the action by the State Medical Board, he had lost all his practice with the result his income had fallen off to nothing."

In the May, 1917, issue of "Brain and Brawn," published in Los Angeles, appears the following article: "Samuel R. Chamley, author of the cruel and false statement that 'every lump in a woman's breast is cancer,' was convicted of practicing medicine without a license, fined \$100 and ordered imprisoned 100 days in the Los Angeles County Jail; the jail sentence was remitted on his promise never again to practice in California."

In the Long Beach Telegraph of May 13, 1913,

appeared an article advising that "Etta V. Niebel was awarded judgment for the full amount of her claim by Judge York yesterday. The trial of this suit to recover \$800 and interest from March 31, 1899, developed the fact that Mrs. Niebel raised the money she paid Dr. Chamley by placing a mortgage on her home."

In a communication signed "R. P. Goodwin, Atty. Gen.," addressed to W. W. Kaufman, formerly attorney for the Board of Medical Examiners, appears the following: "The records of this office show that the order of revocation which was issued on March 4, 1910, revoking order No. 2829, dated December 25, 1909, and order No. 2877, dated January 24, 1910, so far as these orders apply to mail and money orders for Dr. S. R. Chamlee, S. R. Chamley, M. D., S. R. Chamley. This action was taken upon the affidavit filed by Dr. Chamley in which he promised to terminate forever the so-called 'home treatment' of cancer and to restrict whatever business he might do in that line in the future to personal treatment. In support of his application for the revocation of the orders, he represented that he was financially ruined and that the return of letters addressed to him personally marked 'fraudulent' was doing him grave injury. His attorneys also assured this office that it could rely upon any promise made by Dr. Chamley in this connection. With reference to the repeated attempts which had been made to evade the 'fraud' orders Dr. Chamley stated that a physician formerly employed by him was responsible for such attempts, but that upon learning of the facts Dr. Chamley had discharged him. In view of this representation and of the fact that the order covered his individual name and prevented the delivery of personal mail, it was deemed proper to withdraw the orders referred to and this was accordingly done. I note your statement that you are informed that Dr. Chamley is pursuing the same course that he did before the 'fraud' orders were entered. If you have any evidence of this fact, this office would be glad to receive it, and take whatever action the facts may warrant. Respectfully yours, R. P. Goodwin, Atty. Gen."

Quack Chamlee has a lurid record also in St. Louis where, according to Dr. G. A. Jordan,¹ he advertised extensively, "claiming to cure cancer without the knife or pain by means of an application made from a South Sea Island plant, a discovery of Dr. Chamlee's."

He was finally put out of business, a laudable procedure, in which the California State Board of Medical Examiners co-operated.

There are appended certain letters which are excellent illustrations of the damnable quackery and mercenary cruelty of Quack Chamlee:

Palo Alto, Calif., Nov. 30, 1913.

Dr. Chamberlain Co.,
B-436 Valencia Street,
San F., Cal.

Dear Sirs:

Have noted your ad as regards lump in woman's breast. My wife has had trouble with a lump in her left breast for a long time. She has used salves but they don't do no good. Doctors want to operate but she won't stand for it, and noting your guarantee offer. I wonder if your cure could help her, as I am afraid it was cancer. It seems larger than it was. Please write and let me know.

Yours truly,

B. W.

S. R. CHAMLEY, M. D.,
Offices, 436 Valencia Street,
San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 4th, 1913.

Mr. B. W.,
Palo Alto, Cal.

Dear Sir:

Your letter received and carefully studied. Can-

dor compels me to inform you that any hard lump in a woman's breast is always cancer. From your letter she might be past cure.

We hope it is yet in a perfectly curable stage but it is never far to the deadline in this awful disease. With every day's delay the chance for cure is less. Delay adds to the difficulties of treatment, makes it more expensive and the case more liable to be refused.

If cancer is neglected there surely comes a stage when it is no longer curable. Honesty has compelled us to refuse hundreds who had waited too long, all of whom could have been cured had they come in time, but they were self-deluded or badly advised and lost their lives by waiting until the disease was too deeply rooted to cure and we were forced to refuse them.

I dislike to alarm you but cancer will not permit of much trifling or delay. Quick and decided action is required to save life. He who seems harsh in warning of danger is often a true friend.

To be cured in that stage you must come and stay here just two weeks. Cure is certain and permanent if treated before the deep glands in the arm-pit are poisoned, then cure is often impossible and death certain and soon.

Our price is always reasonable but varies according to size and number of cancers. We cannot set a definite price without examination: that would be only guessing. You can put the price in any bank here until satisfied of a cure.

Room, board and poulticing (if needed), \$1.50 per day extra.

Please get what money you can and make arrangements to get more if needed and come at once as delay in this case is very dangerous.

Yours sincerely,

S. R. CHAMLEY, M. D.

Dictated by Dr. S.R.C.

CANCERS AND TUMORS CURED

Without Knife or Pain, or Pay until Cured.

Absolute Guarantee.

S. R. CHAMLEY, M. D.,
Offices 436 Valencia St.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 19, 1914.

Mr. B. W.,
Palo Alto, Calif.

Dear Sir:

We have been expecting you to come for treatment almost any day, and we have become anxious about your waiting so long. You are, for some reason which we do not understand, neglecting yourself.

Considering all the testimonials we have given you, and also the full and complete explanation we have made for your benefit, you ought not to have any doubt about our ability to cure cancer.

Could you but see the number of cancer sufferers we must refuse almost daily because they delayed until their cases became hopeless; could you but see them go away in utter despair to die in a short time, and then could you realize that your case will be like theirs in the near future unless properly treated, you would not wait another day.

It must be that you do not realize the awful danger from cancer. You may think your trouble does not amount to much, as it does not pain or inconvenience you. Let me tell you, friend, that all such things prove fatal if left alone or if not properly treated. None pain until almost past cure.

Surely you are not willing to allow yourself to die of such a terrible disease as cancer. Therefore, we give you this one more warning. If it is not heeded we will feel that we have at least done our duty.

Hoping that you will realize the dangerous condition you are in, the duty you owe to yourself and to your friends, and that you will grant us

¹ Am. Jour. Pub. Health, 1917, VII, 727.

the opportunity to give you a new lease of life and answer this at once, we beg to remain,

Yours very sincerely,

S. R. CHAMLEY, M. D.

Dictated by Dr. S.R.C.

(Note:—Same heading, i. e. Dr. C.'s letter head.)
San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 10, 1914.

Mr. B. W.,
Palo Alto, Cal.

Dear Sir:

(Same letter as that dated Jan. 19, 1914. Must have been a circular letter.)

The following letter was sent to physicians:

(Note:—Same heading as the other, i. e. the Dr.'s letter heads.)

San Francisco, Cal., (dateless).

Dr. E. D. T.,

Dear Dr.:—I take an oath that I have made nearly one-half million dollars with my cancer remedy. I am now an old man (63) and will sell it to you for only \$20.00 and teach you by my book and typewritten correspondence to cure cancers on any part of the face and body. It is a most wonderful, strange but fortunate combination of several medicines easily obtained at any large drug store. I often get \$1000 for curing a cancer and \$300 to \$500 is very common.

I firmly believe that I have cured more cancers than any other Doctor living. I have been curing cancer over 46 years, beginning at Troy, Illinois, and I cannot work at it many years longer and want to give it to the world, but it requires some teaching on a few specially hard and uncommon cases, besides the cost of my book of instructions, formulas and directions for curing. I take an oath that I believe it is the best treatment on earth to-day for cancer in all its many forms. I assure you it is no fraud, else I could not have made so much money. Many physicians have told me that I should teach just as many other physicians in separate communities as possible. You can make thousands of dollars with it and I will teach you how and give you all the formulas and all the secrets that I have worked out in my 40 years curing cancers. It will kill and cure cancer in the month without any danger whatever.

I have had large offices in St. Louis, Chicago, Los Angeles and here in San Francisco in the last 25 years, three of them running all at once. I have thousands of excellent cures all over the United States. If you buy my remedy and cure one person, then tell a few you have discovered a new sure cure for cancer, everybody will soon know it and talk about it, newspapers will mention it and you can soon get many new cases.

Now, if you think you might buy this wonderful treatment complete in all its details, send 24 cents in stamps or a 25-cent piece in a letter for my 120-page book of testimonials of many of the most wonderful cures of cancers the world has ever known.

Price only \$20.00 for a treatment that I have been making from 20,000 to 30,000 dollars with every year for many years. Do not neglect to buy this while I am able to teach you by answering all inquiries about any hard cases, or I will give you half the money from any bad cases you send me. I have just taken two \$2000 cases and a \$1000 case, \$3473 of it in advance.

Yours for the good of humanity,

S. R. CHAMLEY, M. D.

In the Journal of the A. M. A. recently² is copied a circular letter by Quack Chamlee, addressed to homeopaths and eclectics. The first four paragraphs are given as follows:³

"S. R. Chamley—sometimes he spells his name

'Chamlee'—is a resident of Los Angeles. Chamley is the 'cancer cure' quack who frightens impressionable women into the belief that 'any lump in a woman's breast is cancer.' He has been swindling the sick for years. In December, 1909, while living at St. Louis, but also operating from Los Angeles, a fraud-order was issued against him under his various names applying both to his St. Louis and to his Los Angeles offices. Then Chamley changed the name of his concern to 'St. Louis Sanitarium,' using a postoffice box; in January, 1910, the fraud-order was extended to cover this new name. Chamley transferred his swindle to Oakland, Calif., and some weeks later the fraud-order was still further extended to cover the Oakland address. He opened offices in St. Louis and Los Angeles under still another name, the 'United Specialists Cancer Cure Company,' and the federal authorities in February, 1910, denied these the use of the mails."

"In March, 1910, the fraud-orders were revoked in so far as they affected Chamley's personal names, the quack having agreed to go out of the 'cancer cure' business and having filed an affidavit to this effect with the federal authorities. His oath, as might have been expected, was as worthless as his business is villainous. The Journal in August, 1915, called attention to the fact that Chamley was sending out letters to physicians offering to sell for \$20 full instructions that would enable physicians to carry out the same cruel swindles that he himself had waxed rich on. Also he was boldly advertising his fraudulent cancer cure in over a hundred newspapers. About the same time Chamley was indicted by a grand jury at San Francisco for obtaining property under false pretenses. From the newspaper reports it seems that he frightened a woman into believing she had cancer and then obtained a promissory note for \$2000 for an 'operation' which he persuaded the woman he would have to perform. After the victim had paid \$1500 on the note, the quack, it appears, told her that she must be operated upon again and he demanded more money. Two women who acted as nurses for Chamley are said to have testified before the grand jury that Chamley admitted that he knew the woman had no cancer but that he meant to get all the money he could.

"The federal officials again took action and still another fraud-order was issued against Chamley. At that time Judge W. H. Lamar, solicitor for the Post Office Department, in his memorandum to the Postmaster-General, scathingly summarized the case against Chamley thus:

"It may be said that the business of Dr. Chamley, contemplating as it does the extortion of money for a worthless and often harmful 'treatment' through a deliberate propaganda of terror among impressionable women by means of the cancer advertisements and other literature referred to above, is one of the most vicious which has ever been before this office, and constitutes a more sinister parasite on the community than the dread disease which Dr. Chamley offers to cure."

At present Quack Chamley is seeking doctors through whom he can operate as he is not allowed to solicit or treat patients under his own name. While no decent physician will be tempted by the opportunity to learn this "cure," still it serves to show that Quack Chamley is bound by no slightest consideration of honor or decency.

Quack Chamley is still doing business and the united decent sentiment, both medical and non-professional, is none too strong to oust him. The State Board of Medical Examiners has a nearly hopeless fight on hand so long as such quacks can find advertising media and are allowed the use of the mails. Nevertheless means must be found to eradicate Quack Chamley permanently.

² 1917, LXIX, 749.

³ See A. M. A. Sept. 1, 1917, p. 749.